

# Protecting Residential & Higher Education During the COVID-19 Pandemic

**NH Department of Health and Human Services**  
**Division of Public Health Services**  
September 24, 2020

# Newish Guidance and Updates

- [Recommendations for Responding to COVID-19 at Residential Schools, Colleges, and Universities](#)
- [Considerations for Transitioning Between School Instructional Models](#) (targeted for grades K-12)
  - Define level of community transmission (minimal, moderate, substantial)
- [COVID-19 Schools Data Dashboard](#)
- New [HAN Update #21](#), updated recommendations on antigen testing
- Discussion on how testing, contact tracing, isolation & quarantine, and communication is going

# Recommendations for Responding to COVID-19

# Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions

- Social distancing
- Cloth face coverings
- Cohorting
- Avoiding crowds and congregating students
- Hand hygiene
- Cleaning and disinfection
- Ventilation
- PPE for healthcare providers
- See also the [Universal Guidelines](#)

# Isolation vs. Quarantine

- Isolate students with suspected or confirmed COVID-19
- Quarantine close contacts (i.e., exposed)
  - Test close contacts, but testing does not get a person out of quarantine, it just helps with rapid/early identification of infection
- Symptomatic students being tested for COVID-19 can be let off isolation when/if all three following criteria are met:
  - They test negative with an appropriate test (PCR or antigen test)
  - They are fever free (off fever-reducing medications), and other symptoms improving for at least 24 hours
  - They have no risk factor for COVID-19 exposure that would require the person to complete a 14-day quarantine after testing negative

# Testing: Prevent Early Introduction

- We recommend 2-3 rounds of PCR testing the entire campus community when newly bringing students on campus (residential and commuter students, and staff living on campus)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> round: within 7-days pre-arrival
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> round: On arrival
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> round: 7 days post-arrival
- Consider including off-campus staff in testing as well
- Control/restrict student movement while awaiting test results

# Testing: During Academic Year

- Surveillance: Test a proportion of the student population on a recurring basis
  - Proportion and frequency depends on local transmission
- Screen/question students for symptoms of COVID-19, ideally on a daily basis
- Test any student with any new or unexplained symptoms of COVID-19, even mild symptoms
- Test any student who has been exposed to a person with COVID-19 (test 5-7 days after their exposure)
  - Student still needs to complete a 14 day quarantine from their last day of exposure even if test is negative

# Instructional Model Decision Matrix



# Considerations for Transitioning Between Different Instructional Models (Grades K-12)

- Guidance suggests an instructional model based on the COVID-19 level of:
  1. Community transmission within the county in which the school/SAU primarily resides (or within cities of Manchester and Nashua)
  2. Impact on individual school facilities
- This is not intended to direct schools how to re-open
- Schools will need to make decisions throughout the school year based on what is happening in their communities and local schools
- This guidance will potentially change over time based on our experience and feedback

# Defining Level of Community Transmission

- The overall transmission level should be assigned based the highest level identified by any one of the criteria below.

Criteria	Level of Community Transmission		
	Minimal	Moderate	Substantial
PCR test positivity as a 7 day average	< 5%	5 – 10%	>10%
Number of new infections per 100,000 population over prior 14 days	<50	50-100	>100
Number of new hospitalizations per 100,000 population over prior 14 days	<10	10-20	>20

# Defining Level of School Impact

- The overall level of school impact should be assigned based the highest level identified by any one of the following criteria.

Criteria	Level of School Impact		
	Low	Medium	High
Transmission within the school facility	Zero or sporadic cases with no evidence of transmission within the school setting	One cluster* in the school	Two or more unrelated clusters* in the school with onset (based on source case symptom onset dates) within 14 days of each other
Student absenteeism due to illness	<15%	15-30%	>30%
Staff capacity to conduct classes and school operations	Normal	Strained	Critical

\* A cluster is defined as 3 or more individuals confirmed with COVID-19 who are part of a related group of individuals (e.g., classroom) who had the potential to transmit infection to each other through close contact.

# Instructional Model Decision Matrix

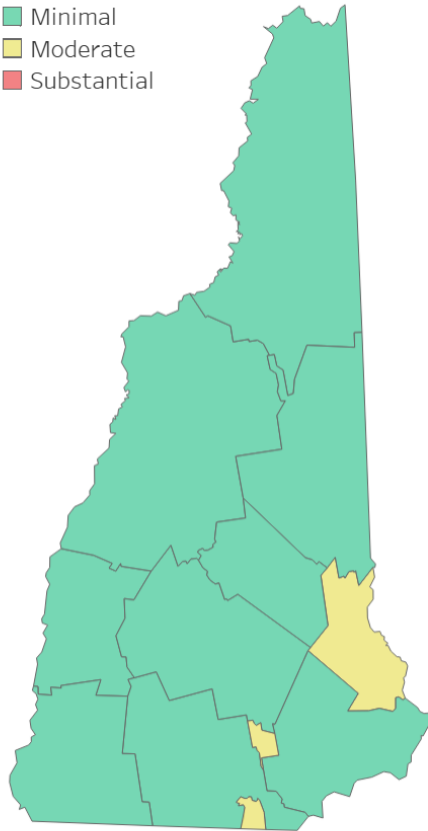
		Level of Community Transmission		
		Minimal	Moderate	Substantial
Level of School Impact	Low	In-Person	In-Person	Hybrid
	Medium	In-Person	Hybrid	Remote
	High	Hybrid	Remote	Remote

# School Data Dashboard

[Overview](#)[Trends](#)[Interactive Map](#)[Interactive Equity](#)[Schools](#)

## Community Level Transmission Metrics (Statewide)

Minimal  
Moderate  
Substantial

Level of  
Transmission

Minimal

New Cases per 100k  
over 14 days

36.6

New Hosp per 100k  
over 14 days

0.6

7-Day PCR Test  
Positivity Rate

0.9%

### School Associated Case Data (Current School Year)



Search by School Level

(All)

Search by School Town

(All)

Search by School Name

Show

All Schools

School Name	Active Cases	Recovered Cases	Number of Clusters	Current Outbreak	Last Case Reported
2nd Nature Academy/Nature of Things	0	0	0	No	No Cases
A. Crosby Kennett Middle School	0	0	0	No	No Cases
Abbot-Downing School	0	0	0	No	No Cases
Academy for Science and Design Charter (H)	0	0	0	No	No Cases
Academy for Science and Design Charter (M)	0	0	0	No	No Cases
Acton Academy New Hampshire	0	0	0	No	No Cases
Acworth Elementary School	0	0	0	No	No Cases
Adeline C. Marston School	0	0	0	No	No Cases
Allenstown Elementary School	0	0	0	No	No Cases
Alstead Primary School	0	0	0	No	No Cases
Alton Central School (Elem)	0	0	0	No	No Cases
Alvirne High School	0	0	0	No	No Cases
American University of Madaba	0	0	0	No	No Cases
Amherst Middle School	1	0	0	No	9/21/2020
Amherst Street School	0	0	0	No	No Cases

Data as of: 9/23/2020

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# **HAN, Update #21: Antigen Testing Update**

# Antigen Testing Update

**Table:** Comparison of Antigen Diagnostic Tests for SARS-CoV-2 Which Have [Received Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\) Emergency Use Authorization \(EUA\)](#)

Test Name	Manufacturer	Specimen Types	Maximum Time Frame to Test After Symptom Onset	Positive Agreement (compared to RT-PCR)	Negative Agreement (compared to RT-PCR)	Manufacturer Instructions
BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag Card*	Abbott Diagnostics Scarborough, Inc.	Nasal Swab	7 days	97.1%	98.5%	<a href="#">Package Insert</a>
LumiraDx SARS-CoV-2 Ag Test	LumiraDx UK Ltd.	Nasal Swab	12 days	97.6%	96.6%	<a href="#">Package Insert</a>
BD Veritor System for Rapid Detection of SARS-CoV-2	Becton, Dickinson (BD) and Company	Nasal Swab	5 days	84%	100%	<a href="#">Package Insert</a>
Sofia SARS Antigen FIA	Quidel Corporation	NP or Nasal Swab	5 days	96.7%	100%	<a href="#">Package Insert</a>

*NP: nasopharyngeal; RT-PCR: reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction*

\* Note: BinaxNOW does not require a separate instrument for testing



# NH will purchase 25 rapid test machines

Accurate test results take just 15 minutes, officials say

61  
Shares



Updated: 6:59 PM EDT Aug 27, 2020



# Abbott BinaxNOW Antigen Card

- Federal government is buying supplies of the Abbott BinaxNOW cards through the end of the year and will distribute them to states for local use

BinaxNOW: With a swab and a card, reliable coronavirus test results in 15 minutes.



# Discussion

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